



2010 SPECIAL SESSION: DAY FIVE

March 19, 2010

Dear Kitchen Cabinet members,

It's day five of the 2010 special legislative session, and **so far it has cost taxpayers about \$83,000** to confirm gubernatorial appointments or adopt resolutions honoring various people and organizations. They've only got one job to do while we're in this special session...pass a budget...and we've spent the last five days waiting for it.



More taxes on the way!!!

One bill we DID vote on today was [Senate Bill 6143](#), which raises or creates dozens of new taxes. The majority already passed this bill during the regular session, and now has to pass it again. **I'm convinced that they see taxes as the only way out of the \$2.8 billion dollar budget deficit that their overspending has gotten us into.** In fact, a member of the majority party passed out a handout on the floor showing that since state spending had increased 33-percent over the last several years, these tax increases – which constitute the largest tax increase in state history – were necessary to make up the spending gap.

One of the new taxes in this bill is an increase of the state's business and occupations tax to help make up the budget shortfall. Will making small businesses give more of their money to the state

encourage them to hire more employees and put people back to work? This is the wrong way to turn around a recession.

Another whopper of a bad idea was in an amendment to the bill which the majority party tacked on. It would essentially allow these massive tax increases to take effect May 1, 2010, instead of the usual July 1. **Democrats, apparently, just can't wait to crawl further into your pocket.**

All of these proposals are bad ideas that should never see the light of day, but since the majority party has chosen to ignore or reject our ideas for government reform, **it's the only option they feel they have left.**

So much for transparency

Around 6 p.m. last night, the Senate Ways and Means Committee announced it would hold executive session today on at least five bills. Short notice of the hearing aside, no time or location was given either. The hearing started just after the Senate passed another huge tax increase bill and adjourned until tomorrow ***(Yes, Saturday. Apparently the majority party is making up for all the time they wasted over the course of this week).***

One of the particularly concerning things about today's hearing was that it was eventually announced we were to meet in the Senate Rules Room, not in the normal hearing room. In all my time at the Senate, I've never had a public hearing in the Rules room when our hearing rooms are available. Interestingly, there are *no TVW cameras* in the Rules room. That means unless you were physically in the room, you wouldn't have been able to observe the debate.

So the chicanery continues at the Washington State Legislature. As you know, I'm not taking any pay while the majority party keeps us here, and several of my colleagues have followed suit. Here's a list of those Senators who have joined me in rejecting pay during the special session:

REPUBLICANS	DEMOCRATS
Senator Randi Becker Senator Don Benton Senator Mike Hewitt	Senator Tracey Eide Senator Randy Gordon Senator Jim Kastama

Senator Janéa Holmquist	Senator Derek Kilmer
Senator Jim Honeyford	Senator Chris Marr
Senator Curtis King	Senator Debbie Regala
Senator Bob McCaslin	Senator Phil Rockefeller
Senator Bob Morton	Senator Paull Shin
Senator Linda Evans Parlette	
Senator Pam Roach	
Senator Val Stevens	
Senator Joseph Zarelli	

I'll continue to keep you posted on how things progress. **If you'd like to keep track of how much of your money the Legislature is wasting, please visit www.SenateRepublicans.wa.gov.**



And Saturday looks to be yet another slow, “taxing” day in the Senate.

In closing...

If you know someone in our district who might be interested in receiving these updates, please feel free to forward this e-mail to him or her. You can always find information online by visiting my website at www.SenateRepublicans.wa.gov/Carrell.



As always, if you'd like to contact me you can write, phone, e-mail, or stop by my Olympia office. I look forward to your comments and suggestions because they help me better represent you. My office phone number is (360) 786-7654, and my home phone number is (253) 581-2859. Or you can write me at **102 Irv Newhouse Building, P.O. Box 40428, Olympia, WA 98504-0428.**

- Legislative E-mail address: carrell.mike@leg.wa.gov
- Home E-mail address: mcarrell@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Mike Carrell

28th District State Senator